President: The honourable member may perhaps be reassured that, as I have pointed out elsewhere, the whole system of the P. W. expenditure is being reorganised. Hereafter, grants will not be made from year to year but they will be made in a lump, say, 80 or 90 lakhs, on a three year basis. This amount will be spent according to the advice of the P. W. Advisory Committee. This procedure will avoid fragmentary items of expenditure. I should like to state also that the Chief Engineer will also have full instructions and authority from Government, in any urgent case, to move quickly in the matter.

The motion was put and carried; the grant was made.

DEMAND IX—COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT.

Mr. E. G. Salter: I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 4,00,000 under Demand IX—Commercial Transport for additional expenditure for petrol. In asking for this may I be permitted to explain the reasons for this heavy supplementary demand. The reasons are three-fold. Firstly, when the budget for 1118 was being prepared it was anticipated that before the end of that year all the buses run by the Transport Department would be converted into charcoal gas driven buses. But unfortunately we have not come up to the expectation, mainly for the fact that we were not able to overhaul the engines rapidly enough to render them suitable for working on charcoal gas. Non-availability of spare parts was the reason for this. Therefore, instead of turning out 3 engines per week we were able only to turn out one in 10 days.

Secondly, owing to the shortage of sugar in South India, the Government of Madras found it expedient to prohibit the export of jaggery. This prohibition resulted in the closing down of the Travancore Sugar Factory with the consequent stoppage in the supply of alcohol. The use of petrol in its place has resulted in a loss of Rs. 9,000 to the Department.

Thirdly, even in the case of the vehicles which are being operated on charcoal gas we are experiencing very great difficulties in obtaining charcoal, mainly due to the great demand for firewood particularly from the South Indian Railway. I request this honourable House to pass this grant.

President: I desire to reassure the honourable members on one matter arising out of Mr. Salter's remarks. As Mr. Salter has stated, the Government of Madras prevented the export of jaggery from Tinnevelly and surrounding places. But I am glad to say that on account of the visit of Mr. Mehta, the Government of India Sugar Controller, we have been able to reach a better understanding with the Government with regard to this question, as

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a result of which understanding more jaggery is coming to us. The export ban has been removed and I have received this morning intimation that 5,500 tons of jaggery would be made available to us. Now the Travancore Sugar Works would start work so that Mr. Salter need not be so extravagant in his demand.

The motion was put and carried.

The Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—EDUCATION EXCLUDING GRANT TO THE TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY.

Mr. A. Gopala Menon: Sir, I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 69,972 under Demand XIX—Education excluding Grant to the Travancore University. As the House is aware, there has been a halt in the giving of grants for new classes in Primary Schools, and for Primary classes in Middle Schools after the year 1115. As a result of this a large number of teachers are working without any help from Government. It is now proposed that 822 teachers who are qualified to receive aid be provided for. For this purpose an amount of Rs. 69,972 is required. The expenditure is divided as follows.

A sum of Rs. 7,736 is required under 24—Education (b) Malayalam and Tamil Schools and a sum of Rs. 62,236 under Education—Grants-in-Aid—Malayalam and Tamil Schools—Primary Education.

I request the House to sanction this demand.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion before the House. In doing so, I have to congratulate the Director for considering the case of the poor teachers. As I said in the case of the Chief Engineer, I might also say that though at the last session of the Council it was said that dearness allowance to these teachers would be considered, that item is not included in this Demand. I thought that a lakh of rupees might be required to meet the requirement in this respect with regard to the Malayalam and Tamil Schools. Now, that the amount asked for is only Rs. 69,000 the question of dearness allowance may also be taken up. I hope that the Government and the Director will be able to give an additional grant to meet the extreme need of the grants-in-aid school teachers by giving them this dearness allowance.

The motion was put and carried.

The Grant was made.

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